

many, many times over. This legislation is enabling legislation which allows the Board of Regents to enter into agreements with the neighboring schools. Senator Richard Maresh has contacted the State of Wisconsin. The State of Wisconsin is not mentioned in this legislation but they are interested in fact in joining the State of Nebraska in the construction of a school. I know that there would be others in the forthcoming years that would join with us and I would hope that the issue does not become one of whether or not we shall build a school of veterinary medicine or shall we build something else but it should just be decided upon whether or not this State of Nebraska, agriculturally oriented, whose destiny rests with agriculture, should be dependent upon neighboring states for the education of their veterinarians to protect the livestock industry of this state.

SENATOR NICHOL: Thirty seconds.

SENATOR SCHMIT: As I pointed out in my early remarks, this school is not designed to merely serve the agricultural interests. The urban interests of this state will benefit greatly from it also because of their vital interest in the small animal practices but principally because anything we can do to cut down the cost of livestock production will benefit all of us.

SENATOR NICHOL: Time is up.

SENATOR SCHMIT: I ask you for your support for the legislation.

SENATOR NICHOL: Senator Koch, and may I remind you on behalf of the Speaker, we have nine, ten lights on, and if we each take our five minutes, we won't anywhere near get to it, so I urge you to be as succinct as possible. Okay, Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and members of the body, veterinarian college in the State of Nebraska, yes, twenty-five, thirty years ago, yes. It is not true today. We annually have 95 students who are in the process of pursuing a DVM, an expense of a little over \$800,000 a year to the State of Nebraska. Recently the State of Wisconsin was looking seriously at a veterinarian college and now they have changed their minds. With declining high school enrollments across this nation, there is going to be an equally decline in the number of students pursuing higher education, and for us to enter into a compact with the Old West, I